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CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE
TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY: REGIONAL
CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 20 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the declaration on confidence-building measures between Ecuador and Peru signed on 8 November 1995 by the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador and Peru at the Regional Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures in the Region (Latin America), held in Santiago, Chile, on the same date.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 70 (j), 71 (b) and 81, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Luis VALENCIA RODRIGUEZ
Permanent Representative

Annex

Regional Conference on Confidence- and Security-building Measures in the Region

Declaration on confidence-building measures between Ecuador and Peru adopted in Santiago on 8 November 1995

It is a great honour for the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador and Peru to announce jointly to this Regional Conference a number of shared principles that have led to the identification and successful implementation of mutual confidence-building measures, adopted by the two countries as part of the process of détente and normalization of their bilateral relations.

The Itamaraty Declaration of Peace between Ecuador and Peru was signed on 17 February 1995 with the participation of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States of America in their capacity as Guarantor Countries of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol of 1942. In that Declaration, in addition to confirming the cessation of hostilities, Ecuador and Peru, seeking to consolidate the cease-fire and to prevent further confrontations, agreed to separate the forces involved in the confrontations and to initiate immediately, as a confidence-building measure, a gradual and reciprocal demobilization in the border zones not affected by the clashes. It was also agreed to send an Observer Mission of the Guarantor Countries to supervise these measures and to request the Mission to recommend an area to be totally demilitarized.

Furthermore, the Itamaraty Declaration of Peace provides for the initiation of talks, as soon as the above-mentioned agreements have been fulfilled and a climate of détente and friendship has been restored, with a view to finding a solution to the remaining impasses between the two countries.

The timely and important action has taken greatly assisted in creating a climate conducive to continued negotiation through dialogue and understanding, leading to the elimination of border incidents and ensuring a prompt and satisfactory resolution of the unfortunate events of early 1995.

The presence of the President of the Republic of Peru in Quito at the ninth summit of the Rio Group, held on 4 and 5 September 1995; the reopening of the frontier for trade between the two countries; the restoration of the mechanism for bilateral diplomatic consultations at the level of Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs on 14 December in Quito with a view to attendance at the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty; the announced visit to Lima in January 1996 of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador in response to an invitation by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru; and the presence in Lima of the President of Ecuador for the meeting of the Andean Presidential Council to be held in March 1996, are practical examples of the importance that both countries attach to mutual trust as a basis for progress in their bilateral relations.

The agreement on the gradual incorporation of officers from Ecuador and Peru in the Military Observer Mission and the adoption on 26 October 1995 of the "security booklets", which are already in force between the two countries, are specific confidence-building measures designed to prevent incidents and to promote closer ties of friendship between their respective armed forces and police forces.

Among the measures contained in the above-mentioned booklets, observance of which is mandatory for the army, navy, air force and police force of each country, mention may be made of: the undertaking to refrain from using firearms - even to fire shots into the air - when two ground patrols meet or when an aircraft of the armed forces or the police flies beyond its airspace; the development of mutual support activities in the event of epidemics, disasters or accidents; the organization of sports visits and activities and exchanges of greetings on national holidays; the suspension of ground, naval and air patrols in all areas where incidents have occurred; provision of emergency facilities for vessels and aircraft; exchanges of detailed advance information on field exercises and/or shooting practice and on overflights for reconnaissance purposes or for delivering supplies, and so on.

In addition, specific procedures have been agreed for the prevention of misunderstandings through direct top-level contacts. Measures have also been agreed to prevent the capture of civilians. Furthermore, individuals detained without identification papers must be handed over to the nearest police station or military unit of their country of origin within 24 hours.

Ecuador and Peru, on reporting to this major Regional Conference the various confidence-building measures that they are implementing in pursuance of the Itamaraty Declaration of Peace with the valuable assistance of the Guarantor Countries of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol of 1942, reaffirm their commitment to the principles contained in the Charter of the Organization of American States and to the strengthening of peace in our hemisphere.

Marcelo FERNÁNDEZ DE CÓRDOBA
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Ecuador

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Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
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